

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 22 has been added. Claims 1-14, 17-18 and 20-22 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 1-3, 7-11, 13, 17-18 and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eyer (U.S. Patent 5,982,411) in view of Pitsch et al. (U.S. Patent 4,677,484).

Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites "automatically displaying... minor channel numbers... and a number of the major channel." Thus, the minor channel numbers and the major channel number are displayed. These features are shown, for example, in present FIG. 3. This FIG. illustrates that the major channel number (2) and the minor channel numbers (2-1, 2-2, 2-3 and 2-4) are displayed.

These features were previously pointed out to the Examiner. The Examiner presently responds by stating that the limitations "simultaneous display of the minor channels numbers, *along with* their corresponding major channel number" (emphasis added) are not found in the claims.

However, Applicants did not previously argue the features of simultaneous display of minor channel numbers "along with" their corresponding major channel number. Instead, Applicants noted claims 20 and 21. Claim 20 recites "simultaneously displaying the minor channel number of a selected minor channel and the minor channel number of a non-selected minor channel." Thus, the simultaneous displaying is of two or more minor channels, not a minor channel number and a major channel number. Applicants further noted claim 21, which recites "simultaneously displaying all of the minor channel numbers of the programs received through the currently selected major channel." Thus, minor channels are simultaneously displayed.

The Examiner also relies upon Pitsch et al. as teaching the claimed automatically displaying minor channel numbers and a number of the major channel. However, Pitsch et al. only teaches that it is generally desirable to display information such as the selected channel number. Pitsch et al., Column 1, line 11. Thus, this portion only relates to displaying a selected channel. In contrast, claim 1 recites displaying minor channel numbers of a selected major channel. Claim 20 further clarifies this distinction, by reciting displaying the minor channel number of a non-selected minor channel.

The Examiner also relies upon Column 5, lines 1-3 of Pitsch et al. This portion of the reference merely states that it is useful to display numbers. However, the particular features of the display are not taught. Thus, this reference only teaches the general idea of displaying channel numbers, but does not teach the presently claimed details of displaying. It is noted that Pitsch et al. does not relate to the environment of digital television, and therefore could not possibly teach the present scheme of displaying major and minor channel numbers.

Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eyer and Pitsch et al. in view of Etheredge (U.S. Patent 6,172,674).

The comments above also apply here. Etheredge does not overcome the above deficiencies in Eyer and Pitsch et al.

Claims 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eyer and Pitsch et al. in view of Keenan (U.S. Patent 5,161,023).

The comments above also apply here. Keenan does not overcome the above deficiencies in Eyer and Pitsch et al.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 22 is added and recites "the automatically displaying comprises automatically displaying the number of the selected major channel and not displaying numbers of unselected major channels." In contrast, Pitsch et al. generally teaches that it is desirable to display information.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.


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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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